

Hello families!

Here is a link to the latest of the guidance from the Department of Health:

[March 10](#)

We are looking forward to the relaxation of mask mandates and with that comes some new recommendations. I just want to share a little bit of the updates to make sure you are aware. While we are moving into a new phase of the pandemic, COVID-19 remains with us, and it should be recognized. The COVID-19 pandemic response must remain flexible with the possibility for changes that occur at the state and local levels. Holy Family will follow local DOH guidance.

Important points to remember!

While masks are no longer required universally in schools, there will be situations when the use of well-fitting masks may be temporarily required. This may vary from class to class based on the teacher's comfort level. We recommend you send a baggie with 2-3 masks to be left at school for use if needed.

There has been no change to the requirement for teacher vaccination and volunteer vaccination. All volunteers and staff must show proof of vaccination to be on campus while children are present.

Notification of individual close contacts is not required but notifications to a class will continue if there is a confirmed case. Any student who is considered medically fragile will be notified of any potential exposure. If you feel your child is medically fragile and we might not be aware, please contact Ms. Thompson.

Families do need to stay vigilant and are responsible for ensuring their children remain at home when ill/symptomatic or exposed. The guidance still suggests staying home 5 days if you have been exposed/test positive and can return on the 6th day if symptoms have improved.

Some updates that might be different.

Music class, singing activities, eating and PE are areas that are still considered high risk. We do provide students masks for Music class and will continue to do so. Currently kids have not been singing in Music but practicing rhythm activities. After Spring Break traditional music activities and in person band will resume. We will utilize the recommended masks for singing and instrument bell covers as we did in the fall.

We will be focusing more on the mitigation strategies of social distancing, cleaning protocols and hand washing with our masks being optional. As the weather gets nicer we will use our outdoor space to help be safe and more socially distanced more and more.

Please do feel free to contact me with any questions regarding these updates to protocols.

Ms. Thompson